

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 FEA-02 AGR-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-03 INR-11

INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 OMB-01 SWF-02 DRC-01 /223 W

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R 191514Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9329

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EEC, DA

SUBJECT: EC BAN OF BEEF AND CATTLE IMPORTS

REF: (A) STATE 155709; (B) STATE 156173

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PASS AGRICULTURE

1. SUBSTANCE REFEELS WAS BROUGHT TO ATTENTION MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE MORNING JULY 19. BOTH EXPRESSED MEASURE OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING US CONCERN AND NOTED THAT DENMARK WAS ONE OF THREE COUNTRIES WHICH ABSTAINED FROM VOTING ON EC DECISION WHICH RESULTED IN BAN. WHILE THE DANES WERE OPPOSED TO THE BAN, IT WAS EXPLAINED, THEY DID NOT VETO THE DECISION BECAUSE OF THEIR DESIRE TO MAKE POSSIBLE AN EC DECISION ON THE INTERNAL PACKAGE OF ACTIONS TO DEAL WITH THE MEAT PROBLEM. (DANISH PRESS REACTION TO BAN HAS BEEN SOMEWHAT UNFAVORABLE - SOME REPORTS HAVE CITED BAN AS CONTRARY TO DECLARED PRINCIPLES OF EC AND TO GATT.)

2. NEVERTHELESS, THE DANES SOUGHT TO DOWNPLAY IMPACT ON THE EC BAN BY POINTING OUT SPECIFIC AND LIMITED DURATION OF BAN, DURING WHICH THEY EXPECTED THE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS AND INTERNAL MEASURES TO DO MUCH TO ALLEVIATE THE INTERNAL EC MEAT PROBLEM. THEY ALSO SAW THE BAN PRIMARILY AS A PSYCHOLOGICAL MOVE TO PLACATE EC PRODUCERS INASMUCH AS BEEF IMPORTS HAD ALREADY BEEN EFFECTIVELY RESTRICTED BY THE "JUMELAGE" REQUIREMENT AND RELATED MEASURES. IN FACT THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE BAN WAS BASED LARGELY ON THE ARGUMENT THAT IT WAS AN UNNECESSARY ACTION.

3. THE DANES STILL VIEW THE DANISH AND EC MEAT PROBLEMS AS DIRECT RESULTS OF THE ITALIAN IMPORT RESTRICTIONS, AND NOW THE INCREASED VAT ON ITALIAN MEAT CONSUMPTION, BUT EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT ITALIAN CONSUMPTION LEVELS WILL SOON RECOVER DESPITE THE RELATIVELY HIGHER PRICES IN ITALIAN CONSUMERS. IN TURN THEY SEE THIS ITALIAN CONSUMPTION RELIEVING THE EC SURPLUS PROBLEM DURING THE PERIOD IMPORTS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES ARE RESTRICTED.

4. THE DANES NOTE THAT YUGOSLAV SALES TO ITALY ARE MOST AFFECTED BY THE EC IMPORT RESTRICTIONS BUT BELIEVE HARDSHIP ON YUGOSLAVIA MAY BE MINIMIZED BY SUBSTANTIAL RUSSIAN PURCHASES OF YUGOSLAV BEEF. THEY ACKNOWLEDGED THE RUSSIANS HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY NEGOTIATING FOR EC BEEF BUT DID NOT BELIEVE ANY MAJOR EC

SALES TO RUSSIA HAVE BEEN MADE. THE DANES WERE FIRM IN THEIR BELIEF THAT, OTHER THAN STANDARD EXPORT RESTITUTIONS, NO SPECIAL EC TERMS FOR BEEF SALES TO RUSSIA WOULD BE NEGOTIATED.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Remarks:
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